Integrated Transport Policy for IA

1687. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have an integrated transport policy for the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposed policy; and

(c) what additional facilities are proposed to be extended to the travelling public?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Construction of air-strips in H.P., Punjab and J and K

1688. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any scheme for construction of air-strips in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir to attract foreign tourists who visit the hill stations in these States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action Government have taken/ propose to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) In Himachal Pradesh proposals for construction of airstrips at Ranikhet, Rangrik and Bilaspur have been received. But these sites were not found suitable. A proposal for construction of a new civil enclave at Pathankot in Punjab was also received. The work for construction of Terminal Building has commenced and boundary wall work is in progress and likely to be completed by March, 2002. As regards Jammu and Kashmir, proposals for construction of airstrips at Kargil, Kishtwar, Doda, Bhardwah, Ramen, Binihal, Chenani, Mahore and Pacheri were received. AAI has developed a new airport at Kargil at a cost of Rs. 37.82 crores which is likely to be operational by September, 2001. Other sites were not found suitable for development of airstrips as adequate land is not available for construction of runway and other infrastructure.